

# National News

---

## Columnist indicts Bush budget fraud

Paul Craig Roberts, in a commentary in the July 30 *Wall Street Journal*, indicted the Bush administration for financial fraud. "Warren Brookes has slammed Budget Director Richard Darman for 'the worst fiscal mismanagement in U.S. history,'" Roberts writes. "But Mr. Brookes's charge of incompetence shields the government from the far more serious charge of fraud.

"Mr. Darman has managed to produce a larger deficit with a tax increase and a defense build-down than Mr. Reagan achieved with a tax cut and defense buildup. . . .

"Moreover, the growth in the federal deficit may be far from over. States and localities are generally prohibited by law from consistently running deficits, and so to pare their deficits, they are likely to increase income and property taxes, which are federally deductible. Thus, as these taxes rise, federal tax revenues grow less rapidly with income—which itself grows less rapidly as taxes rise."

Roberts points out that Darman ballooned the deficit by taking on the S&L bailout, and is counting on reducing it by sale of the assets, which are now worthless. The coming increase in federal deficits will dwarf what has occurred so far, especially if the government bails out the commercial banking system, as now seems likely. He concludes: "The growing deficit will reflect a dying economy."

---

## Teens to be given birth control implants

Teenagers in drug and alcohol abuse programs in Colorado will get Norplant birth control implants in the first demonstration project of its kind in the country. Funded by a private foundation, Planned Parenthood in Colorado plans to implant 100 teenage girls with the birth control device free of charge. The July 29 *Richmond Times Dispatch* in

Virginia reported that the controversy around the program has caused the private foundation to request anonymity.

Women who have low incomes are also being offered the implant. Planned Parenthood has trained dozens of Denver-area doctors and launched a fundraising campaign to help low-income women afford the device. Opponents of Norplant complain that women considered "unfit" for motherhood such as the poor, drug addicts, and others, may be coerced to use Norplant.

---

## SDIO warns of Third World missile threat

The "Third World ballistic missile threat" from nations like India and Brazil is featured in a new report by the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO), the July 29 *Jerusalem Post* reported. The report is the latest evidence of U.S. targeting of Third World nations for their efforts to develop advanced technology.

The *Jerusalem Post*, quoting the report, said that the proliferation, and subsequent modification of Scud-B missiles was not earlier anticipated, and "it was also not anticipated that these modified versions would generate a new Third World missile business, with China and North Korea as leaders for development and sales."

The paper paraphrased the SDIO: "The elaborate Iraqi missile development effort was not unique, but rather serves as an advanced look at other such programs being carried out around the world. Therefore, the threat of ballistic missiles is not solved by the U.N. Security Council resolution requiring Iraq to destroy its ballistic missile systems with ranges greater than 150 kilometers. . . . Iraq's ballistic missile program is rightfully seen as a harbinger of things to come. If Iraq can buy crude technology, upgrade it and produce longer-range or more lethal systems, others can as well."

The report lists several Third World countries and their missile-related activities: India, for having test-fired its two-stage Agni missile with a range of 1,500-2,000 kilometers; Brazil, for its preparations to be

a player in the military missile business with its MB/EE-600, SS-300, and SS-1000 missiles, which have ranges of 600, 300, and 1,000 kilometers, respectively; Pakistan, for its acquisition of the Chinese M-11 system; and Saudi Arabia, for its purchase of the Chinese CSS-2.

---

## Anti-war officer faces court martial 'railroad'

Capt. Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, accused by the U.S. Army of desertion for her refusal to serve in the Persian Gulf War, told *EIR* on July 31 from Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri that the government has denied her the right to present her defense. She said that the court martial beginning Aug. 5 will "be a railroad."

Vaughn, along with international legal and medical experts, had argued at a pre-trial hearing in early May that she "had a duty under U.S. and international law to refuse deployment in the Gulf war." Huet-Vaughn said she stands ready to prove that the U.S. violated international law in starting the war and, therefore, under the *U.S. Army Manual's* own rules, following orders is not a legal excuse for committing a crime.

On July 15, the prosecution brought two limiting motions forward which were rubber-stamped with no explanation or counter-rebuttal allowed. These two motions *in limine* make it illegal for Vaughn to question whether the war was legal, or to bring up anything that has do with her motives, including philosophical or religious ideas.

Vaughn, a doctor, reports that hundreds or thousands of resisters are being "treated increasingly vindictively" by the U.S. military.

---

## Environmentalists are the threat, says report

Environmentalists are a threat to people and the environment, according to a report issued in early August by the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas, Texas. The

## Briefly

86-page report points out that most of the money being spent to clean up the environment is wasted, and in many cases environmental policies actually cause environmental harm.

According to the report, the Environmental Protection Agency funds "politically popular programs" like Superfund, which "appears to have benefitted trial lawyers and politicians a lot more than the public," at the expense of others "which might advance environmental objectives."

The problem is that members of the environmental elite believe "the best of all possible worlds lies not in the future, but in the past," the report charges. They "are 'reactionaries' in the truest sense of the word" who "oppose science, technology, industrialization, and economic growth," and at times even "imply that humans are an unfortunate accident of evolution and have no natural place on our planet."

Most environmentally concerned people, the report says, realize technology is their "single most important weapon" because it "has allowed us to clean up rivers and lakes, improve the quality of air in our cities, and reduce the impact of oil spills"; but these "progressive environmentalists" are becoming voiceless in the capitals of most industrialized countries.

### NRC recommissions older nuclear plant

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission voted 4-0 on July 31 to allow the Yankee Rowe nuclear plant to continue to operate. The plant, which went into operation in Massachusetts in 1960, is the nation's oldest nuclear power plant, and nuclear opponents are trying to have the plant shut down, claiming that neutron bombardment has weakened the reactor vessel to the point where it is unsafe.

The plant will continue to operate until next spring, while the utility does tests to determine the condition of the vessel. The NRC commissioners had toured the plant themselves on July 8.

The decision is important because there

will be an increasing number of plants reaching the 30-year-old mark in operations, and the precedent of not being stampeded into shutting them down for alleged safety problems is important for the entire industry.

The NRC is also in the midst of deciding how to evaluate the conditions of the plants, in an effort to re-license them for an additional 20 years. There are less than a handful of nuclear power plants being completed. If re-licensing is not allowed and no new plants are ordered, by the beginning of the next century, nuclear power will be all but phased-out in the United States.

### Ascher: mayoralty a test on drug legalization

John Ascher, a candidate for mayor of Baltimore, Maryland and an associate of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, defined his race against incumbent mayor Kurt Schmoke as a referendum on drug legalization, in campaign statements in late July and early August. Schmoke is notorious for calling for a national debate on legalizing drugs.

Ascher, a Democrat, is urging voters "to defeat our local pro-drug mayor. . . . Whether you like it or not, Baltimore's race for mayor is a referendum on legalizing drugs. Vote No to dope."

Ascher's statement came as the media reported a 60% increase in crack use in Baltimore over the past year. During the same time, the number of arrests for drug sales has declined. Ascher blamed this directly on Schmoke who, he said, has not even put up a pretense of fighting dope.

Ascher's campaign has been garnering media coverage. The Aug. 3 *Baltimore Evening Sun* headlined one article, "Schmoke Assailed." "Mayoral candidate John Ascher says that Mayor Schmoke played into the hands of the drug mafia by advocating the decriminalization of drugs. 'Many have recently asked why there is no War on Drugs in Baltimore; no drug czar, not even a fig leaf. It is because your mayor agrees with the drug mafia that it is better to legalize drugs than to wage war to stop drugs,'" Ascher was quoted.

● **THE FRIENDS** committee on legislation is alerting citizens to the House resolutions by Rep. Tim Penny (D-Minn.) and Henry Gonzalez (D-Tex.) which seek to lift the sanctions against Iraq which are leading to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of children. Their effort is cited in a letter to the editor in the July 31 *Richmond Times Dispatch* in Virginia.

● **DONALD GREGG**, U.S. Ambassador to South Korea and national security adviser to Vice President Bush, has been designated a "subject" of Independent Counsel Lawrence Walsh's probe of the Iran-Contra affair, the July 31 *USA Today* reported.

● **THE MILITARY** Families Support Network warned Aug. 2 of the danger that the U.S. will go to war against Iraq again. The group urges speaking out against the "blanket authorization [the Dole-Lieberman resolution] to go to war just passed" in the U.S. Senate.

● **TOM HAYDEN**, a California assemblyman, will teach a course on "The Environment and Spirituality" at Santa Monica College, the Aug. 3 *New York Times* reported. The course ends with the prospects for a new Earth-oriented religion. "We need to see nature as having a sacred quality, so we revere it and are in awe of it," said former SDS radical Hayden.

● **TELEPHONE** fundraisers for the Bush campaign are finding that fully one-half of the "inner circle" GOPers called are angry at George Bush because of the state of the economy, according to an individual engaged in the phoning.

● **THE U.S. MILITARY** stood with the butchers of Beijing on the reviewing stand at Tiananmen Square, as the U.S. officially ended a two-year boycott of China's annual Army Day reception, UPI reported Aug. 1.